

What is claimed is

1. A method for providing contemporaneous product information to a customer at retail sales locations comprising the steps of:

    directing product sources to create and supply product pages formatted to a defined data-form specification;

    maintaining the product pages on a central location server where each product page is identified with a unique code identifier;

    providing a specific sales location server with a site location product list;

    synchronizing the site location product list with the central location server to create a download list on said central location server specific to said retail sales location; and

    downloading the product pages corresponding to said download list to said retail sales location server.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said retail location server downloads product pages to a kiosk in response to a product information request from said kiosk.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the method further comprises the step of choosing a product from a menu driven selection means.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein the method further comprises the step of choosing a product from an automated product identification means.

5. A product information system comprising:

    a set of product information pages which comprises a product information page for each product sold within said system at any product sales organization site

or available from any product producer within such system;

a set of product producers that comprises each of the product producers within such system that have a means for providing products to said product sales organizations;

a set of product sales organizations which comprises each of the product sales organizations within such system that have a means for displaying product information pages at points of sales where such means have product selection means for allowing customers to choose which specific product he customer wants to see the product information page; and

an information handling organization where said information-handling organization provides a first correlation list of product information page to individual product sales organization and a second correlation list correlating product producer with product information pages.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein said information handling organization further comprises means for authoring a product information page that includes means for inputting product information from said individual product producer.

7. The system of claim 6 wherein said information handling organization provides a commission charge to said product producer upon the event of a sale of a specific product at a specific product sales organization.

8. The system of claim 7 wherein said correlates said commission charge to an invoice to said product sales organization.

9. The system of claim 7 wherein said product information pages include a multimedia display that describes the product and its features and which further includes a set of links to related products that may be of interest to a potential customer.

10. The system of claim 9 wherein said information page has navigation means that when coupled with an output means at the product sales site allows a customer to navigate through the information page.

11. The system of claim 5 wherein the means for displaying product information are leased by said information handling organization to said product sales organizations.

12. The system of claim 5 wherein the means for displaying product information are owned by the set of product producers.

13. The system of claim 11 wherein the means for displaying product information are leased by said information handling organization to said product sales organizations wherein said lease price is a portion of sales of products per a defined use schedule.

14. The system of claim 11 wherein the means for displaying product information are leased by said information handling organization to said product sales organizations wherein said lease price is a portion of sales of products.